

Proposed Title: Factors associated with perceptions of health care providers' communication behavior among current smokers and non-smokers.

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Research questions:

Are patients' perceptions of providers' communication behavior associated with sociodemographic, health care access variables, and patients' self-reported distress? Do these associations differ for current smokers and non-smokers?

Study description/rationale:

Several investigations have demonstrated the effectiveness of physician-delivered smoking cessation interventions (Kottke et al., 1988; Ockene et al., 1994; Ockene & Zapka, 1997; Silagy & Stead, 2001). A recent meta-analytic review of 16 trials comparing brief advice to no advice demonstrated a significant increase in smoking cessation among patients who received brief physician counseling compared to those who received usual care (Silagy & Stead, 2001).

This study proposes to examine factors associated with patients' perceptions of health care providers' communication behaviors among current and former smokers. Specifically, we will examine whether there are any differences between current smokers and former smokers in contact with health care providers and perceptions of providers' communication behavior by key sociodemographic characteristics, health care access, health status, and levels of distress.

Variable list:

spage	First, what is your age?
spgender	Are you male or female?
hc1usual	Do you have a regular health care provider?
hs5healt	Do you have any kind of health coverage?
dm1maina	What is your employment status?
dm4hispa	Are you Hispanic or Latino?
dm5race1	What is your race?(1)
dm5race2	What is your race?(2)
dm5race3	What is your race?(3)
dm5race4	What is your race?(4)
dm5race5	What is your race?(5)
dm6educa	Highest grade/year of school completed?
dm7ainco	Is income less than 25K?
dm7binco	Is income less than 20K?
dm7cinco	Is income less than 15K?
dm7dinco	is income less than 10K?
dm7einco	Is income less than 35K?
dm7finco	Is income less than 50K?
dm7ginco	Is income less than 75K?
dm7hinco	Is income 75K or more?

hc18atrust	How much would you trust the information from a doctor or other health professional?
tu1smoke	Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your life?
tu2smoke	How often do you smoke?
tu3smoke	On the average, how many cigarettes do you now smoke a day?
tu4smoke	On the average, when you smoked during the past 30 days, about how many cigarettes did you smoke a day?
tu5smoke	Would you say that ... (you plan to quit smoking, etc.)?
tu6smoke	About how long has it been since you last smoked cigarettes?
tu7smoke	On the average, when you smoked, about how many cigarettes did you smoke a day?
hs1general	In general, would you say your health is....
hs3depre	How much did these feelings interfere with daily life?
hc3freqg	During last 12 months, how many visits with a provider?
hc4apro	During last 12 months, how often did they listen carefully?
hc4bprov	During last 12 months, how often did they explain clearly?
hc4cprov	During last 12 months, how often did they show respect?
hc4dprov	During last 12 months, how often did they spend enough time?
hc4eprov	During last 12 months, how often did they involve you?

Method of analysis

Crosstabulation with Chi square will be used to examine the association of patients' perceptions of providers' communication behavior with sociodemographic and health care access variables. The bivariate associations identified in research question one will be assessed at the multivariate level with logistic regression analyses examining the association of patients' contact with providers and perceptions of providers' communication behavior with key sociodemographic characteristics, health care access, health status, and smoking status (current smoker, recent quit, long-term quit).

References

Kottke TE, Battista RN, DeFries GH, Brekke ML. Attributes of successful smoking cessation interventions in medical practice: a meta-analysis of 39 controlled trials. *JAMA* 1988;259:2882-2889.

Ockene JK, Kristeller J, Goldberg R, Amick TL, Pekow PS, Hosmer D, Quirk M, Kalan K. Increasing the efficacy of physician-delivered smoking interventions: a randomized clinical trial. *J Gen Intern Med* 1994;6:1-8.

Ockene JK, Zapka JG. Physician-based smoking intervention: A rededication to a five-step strategy to smoking research. *Addict Behav* 1997;22:835-848.

Silagy C, Stead LF. Physician advice for smoking cessation. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2001;(2):CD000165.